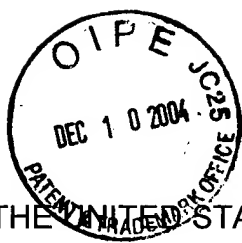


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kazutoshi YASUNAGA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2655

Appln. No. : 09/440,093

Examiner: Michael N. Opsasnick

Filed : November 15, 1999

Confirmation No.: 2522

For : EXCITATION VECTOR GENERATOR, SPEECH CODER AND SPEECH
DECODER

**REQUEST FOR EXAMINER'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CLAIM OF PRIORITY
AND CERTIFIED COPY (AFTER ALLOWANCE)**

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Issue Fee
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington VA 22202

Sir:

On November 15, 1999 Applicants filed a Claim of Priority for the above-identified application, claiming priority of Japanese Application Nos. 8-294738, filed November 7, 1996; 8-310324, filed November 21, 1996; 9-34582, filed February 19, 1997; and 9-34583, filed February 19, 1997. As required by the Statute, Applicants noted that certified copies of the Japanese applications had been filed by the International Bureau in parent application No. 09/101,186, filed July 6, 1998.

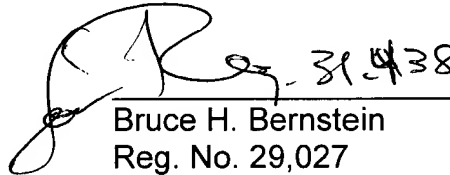
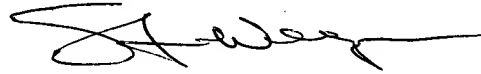
In the Notice of Allowability mailed on October 22, 2004, the Examiner checked Box 4 acknowledging that a claim for foreign priority was made, and that certified copies were received in prior application number 09/101,186. However, the Examiner inadvertently failed to complete Box 4a to confirm that all of the certified copies were received.

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Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to forward a Corrected Notice of Allowability in which Box 4a is completed to confirm that all of the certified priority documents were received in Application No. 09/101,186.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Kazutoshi YASUNAGA et al.



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

December 10, 2004
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